

VIP Event

“Meet us on the Red Carpet”

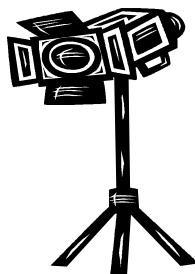
Tues, October 21, 2014*

6:00-8:30 p.m.

Park Place Hotel - Top of the Park

**You and a guest are cordially
invited to attend our
Volunteer Appreciation Event!**

***Join us for,
“Your time in the spotlight”!***





Sept.

Maryann Wichtner
Don Hutchinson
Diane Cowley
John Evans
Alexander Moore
Michael Herron
Phil Hamburg
Diana Zapalski
Deb Bloxsom
Bradford Purcell
Patricia Bowen
Paul Hathaway
Marilyn Vlach
Jeana Paquet
Peggy Friess
Eileen Larsen
Jeri Cooke
Patricia Marar
Gayenell Gentelia

Oct.

Jim Valko
Joseph Fraser
Margaret Gove
Dolores Rode
Jim Doman
Sue Soderberg
Violet Brott
Sue Noakes
Nancy Crandall
Dave Speirs
Thad Shumway
Robin Komrska
Lisa Hoffman
Jen Carlson
Jim Dawson
Rachel Ottman



Transporter Refresher Training

Monday, Sept. 15, 2014

5:15-8:00 p.m.

Multi Purpose Room

Dinner will be served!

r.s.v.p. by Sept. 12th -922-4827

WELCOME



Welcome Lori Gardyko,
to Volunteer Services.

Lori comes to us from

Wyant Computer Services, and the STEP
program at the Traverse City High School. Lori
has a wonderful husband, Mike, and four sons,
as well as a new grand daughter. She has



many hobbies that
include; volunteering for
TC Film Festival,
cooking, reading, outdoor
activities and spending
time with her family and
loveable golden doodle,
Molson.

The four 'L's

Lindsey, Linda, Lori & Laura



A **General Orientation** for new and prospective
volunteers, will be held **Oct. 7, 9, and 14** - from
5:15-8:00 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room.

An overview of our Volunteer Services will
include Court staff and a panel of experienced
volunteers, talking about what they do, and how
they do it. Jill Kimball from Lakeview Counseling
will join us to discuss the importance of
communication in serving as a helper.

Tell your friends. Learning Partner tutor
mentors, guardians and transporters are
especially needed.



Learning Partners hike back-to-school: our Annual Learning Partner back-to-school celebration included a guided nature hike and potluck picnic for Learning Partner Volunteers, students and their families on August 26th. Rounded-out with backpacks and school supplies donated by Rotary Club Sunrise, it was a true party! Thank You, Rotary!



Learning Partners **will not meet on the first Tuesday of September**, as it is the first day of school for most students. We will hold our September meeting a **4 p.m. on Tuesday, September 16th in conjunction with CASA Volunteers - see article across** →

Three Learning Partner student families and several volunteers attended the Beach Bums game on July 20th and had a great time. A few kids stayed to run the bases and get autographs from players, coaches, and the mascots. All are ready to go back to school and tell what they did over the summer. Volunteers had a unique opportunity to chat with parents, and it was a great time for all in attendance.



A joint meeting for Learning Partners, CASA volunteers and all interested volunteers, will be held on Tues., Sept. 16th at 4:00 p.m. Counselors from Pine Rest, Traverse City, will present information on understanding children with mental health issues and services available to assist them and their families.

On Oct. 21, our monthly meeting for CASA volunteers will not be held, so that you can join us at our Annual Meeting/Volunteer Appreciation event, that evening at the Park Place Hotel. I hope you can all make it!

The Michigan CASA conference will be held Fri & Sat., Oct 17 and 18, in Novi Michigan. Registration info. should be available soon, so stay tuned. Some scholarship money may be available. See below for details on our CASA silent auction basket. Monies gained through this raffle, held at the conference, are used to defray conference costs.

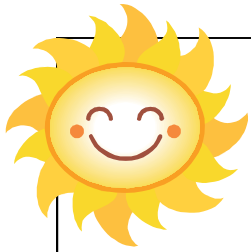
Thank You!



Save the Date and help fill the raffle basket for Grand Traverse County CASA— this year's theme is **"Cozy up at Home"**. Please bring basket donations to the **Sept. 16th meeting**.

Ideas for the basket include:

Robe, slippers
Wine, chocolates
Bubble bath, lotions, bath salt
Coffee, mugs
Books

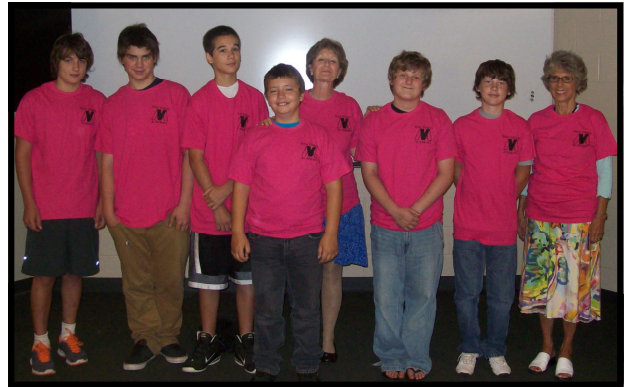


New Vision Academy 2014 was a great success! Led by CASA volunteers, **Darcy Schlitt** and **Katy Ramsdell**, both former teachers. 8-10 youth met for 2, three day sessions in June, July and Aug. Many thanks to the following presenters, who all gave meaningful life lessons and skills during our July and Aug. sessions.

THANK YOU!

Deputy Reiser - GT County Sheriff's Dept., Trooper Kris Makowski, Norm Bowbeer-GT Resort and Spa, Ann Olson -3rd Level, Phil Hamburg, Cassidy Fisher-Women's Resource Center, Don Kuehlhorn, Mary Beth Novak- Catholic Human Services, Elizabeth Stevens-NMC, and Jim Adkins-White Tiger Martial Arts.

The close of this year's academy was celebrated with a ceremony of completion, 'Let's Make a Deal' with Darcy and Katy, followed by a pizza party. Judge Stanton joined Probation Staff in congratulating the students. Thanks again, to all those who supported this important program!



Our Court is faced with many decisions that are made by lawmakers, and higher courts. When these decisions are made, we put forth the best effort we can to help volunteers understand these changes. On June 2, 2014, the Michigan Supreme Court issued an Opinion that will affect some of the Neglect Abuse cases you may be involved in as a CASA worker.

The Michigan Supreme Court stated "due process requires a specific adjudication of a parent's fitness before the state can infringe the constitutionally protected parent-child relationship" (In re Sanders).

Prior to this Opinion, the Court only needed to adjudicate one parent to obtain jurisdiction over all parents involved in a particular case. If you may recall, adjudication is the initial stage of a child protective proceeding. Without a finding of responsibility of a parent to one of the allegations in the Petition filed by DHS, the Court has no authority to continue to take custody of the children involved. The Michigan Supreme Court has now stated that the Courts must conduct a separate adjudication for each parent involved before retaining jurisdiction.



This recent decision will not affect every case currently before the Court, but will affect any pending case in which only one parent pled responsible or was found to be responsible for an allegation in the Petition. In order to comply with the recent Michigan Supreme Court decision, the Court must conduct adjudication hearings for all parents who did not originally plea responsible in their respective cases. This will require a few more hearings before these cases can proceed.



GRAND TRAVERSE AREA LITERACY COUNCIL



It's back to school time, the arrival of fall and soon fall colors will grace our landscape; for GTALC it is 'back to school' as well.

The GTALC Board met at the beginning of this summer to close out our fiscal year, set the year's annual calendar, and elect officers for the upcoming year. The Board selected a familiar slate: Treasurer, Jerry DeGrazia; Secretary Karen Williams; Vice President, Mary DeGrazia and President, Dick Thompson.

A special committee is working on reshaping our tutor support activity, training volunteers in assessment and placement of students with tutors.

This fall will see the beginning of a targeted outreach effort to connect with human resource personal at selected businesses to make them aware of our services to their employees who might benefit from the same.

GTALC continues to work with the Probate and Family Court with clients we can help with literacy education.

Respectfully submitted,

Dick Thompson, President



Learn for Life

Online courses start at just \$99

For information visit:

www.nmc.edu/ees

Click "online classes"

Examples of classes you can take, include:

Creative Arts, Fitness & Wellness, Languages, Music,
Photography, Computer, Professional Development
and many more!

Volunteer Services has been busy this summer.

Roy Bernier, CASA trained volunteer and retired teacher and principal - tutored 6 children in foster care who were identified by their CASA volunteers; Diana Zapalski, Barb Grewe, and Gayenell Gentelia.



Thank you, Roy!



**VOLUNTEERS IN
PREVENTION/PROBATION**

GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY PROBATE COURT

GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

MELANIE D. STANTON, PROBATE & FAMILY COURT JUDGE

280 Washington St., Suite B 150, Traverse City, MI 49684

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Or Current Resident

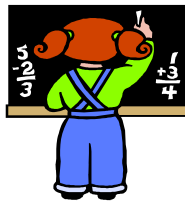
*All meeting are held at the Volunteer Services office
unless otherwise mentioned.

Learning Partners

1st Tuesday-4:00-5:00 pm

Tuesday, Sept. 16th (change-
for details see pg. 3)

Tuesday, Oct. 7th



CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate)- See pg. 3

3rd Tuesday- 4:00-6:00 pm

Tuesday, Sept. 16th

Tuesday, Oct. 21st

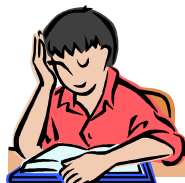


Literacy Council

3rd Wednesday-6:00 pm
Traverse Area District Library

Wednesday, Sept. 17th

Wednesday, Oct. 22nd



-VIP EVENT-

Volunteer Appreciation

Reception

Save the Date!

Oct. 21, 2014

***Your official invitation
will be in the mail.**